CLAIMS

1. A router for supporting an Inverse Multiplexing over ATM (IMA) function in a mobile communication network, said router comprising:

a CPU for converting into ATM cells from a plurality of Ethernet packets inputted from network processors connected to subscribers and outputting the converted ATM cells, and for converting into Ethernet packets from a plurality of ATM cells inputted from said CPU and distributing to the network processors the converted Ethernet packets;

an ATM multiplexer/demultiplexer connected to said CPU for multiplexing or demultiplexing the ATM cells;

an IMA processor connected to said ATM multiplexer/demultiplexer for converting into Pulse Code Modulation (PCM) packets from ATM cells inputted from said ATM multiplexer /demultiplexer and grouping the PCM packets, and for converting into ATM cells from grouped PCM packets and outputting to said ATM multiplexer/demultiplexer the converted ATM cells; and

a line interface unit for transmitting to a general network the grouped PCM packets via a line (e.g., E1 or T1) and outputting to said IMA processor grouped PCM packets inputted from the general network.

2. The router according to Claim 1, wherein said IMA processor monitors the status of the E1 or T1 link and, upon detection of an occurrence of a failure of the link, informs an operator of the occurrence of the failure.